

YOU TOO



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Uncle Ulver is very special to the children
in Letter People Land.

“Uncle Ulver remembers everything about us,”
say the children.

“He remembers because he cares.”

But the time comes when Uncle Ulver does not
remember everything.

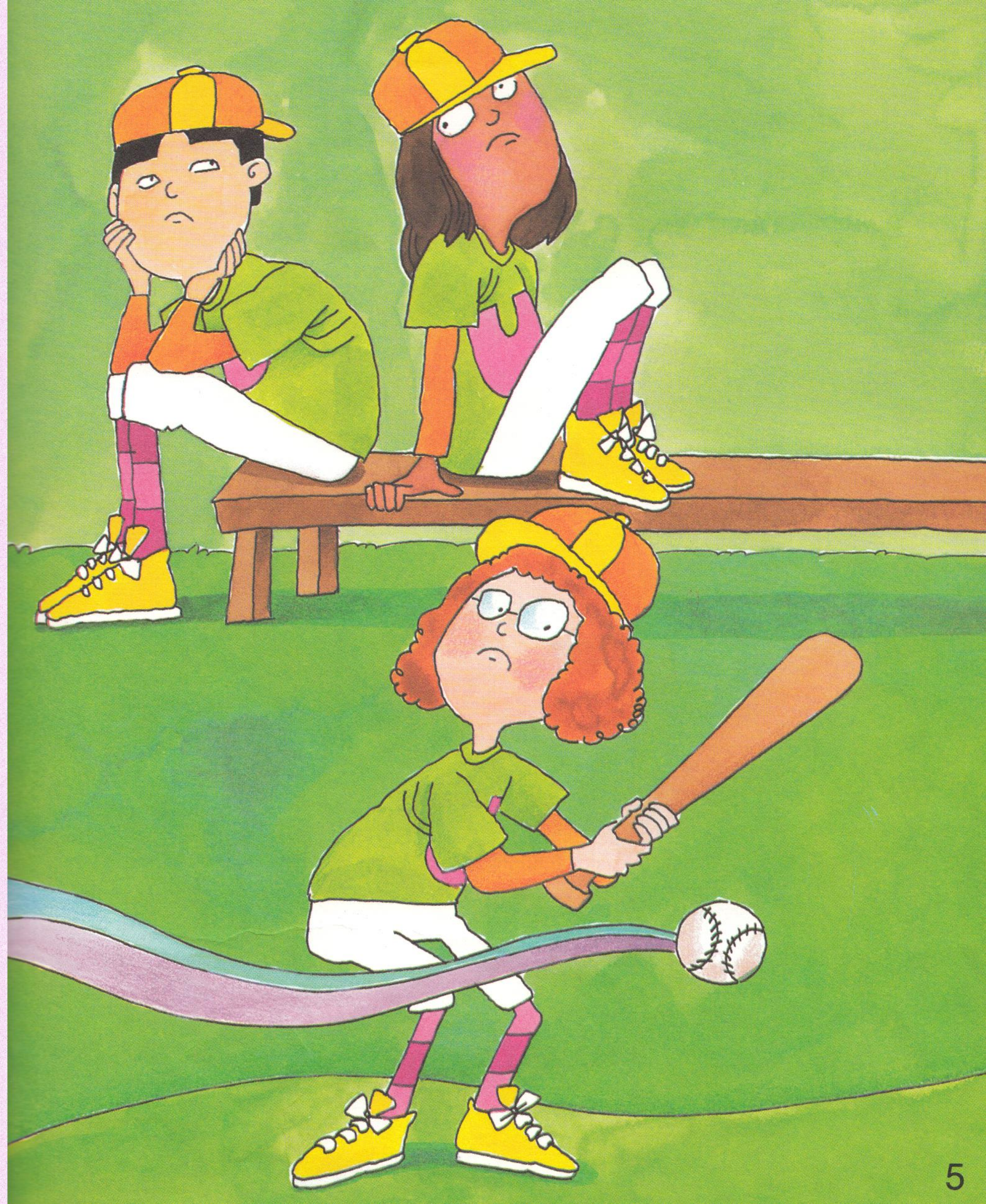
Then the children get upset.

They think Uncle Ulver no longer cares about them.

It all starts on the day of an important softball game.
The teams are in their uniforms.
They are ready to play.
Miss U is the umpire.
She is ready to play.
Uncle Ulver is the coach.
He is not ready to play.
He is not at the ball game.
“I cannot wait any longer,” says Miss U.
“We have to start the game without Uncle Ulver.”



All during the game the children look for Uncle Ulver.
He does not come.
Umby is upset.
He does not pitch well.
Undene is upset.
She does not bat well.
The Letter People Land team loses the game.
“We needed Uncle Ulver to coach us,” says Umby.
“Why didn’t he come?
I thought he cared about our team.”
“Uncle Ulver cares,” says Miss U.
“He must have a good reason for not coming
to the game.”



After the game, Miss U and the team hurry to Uncle Ulver's house.

"Uncle Ulver," says Miss U, "we were worried about you."

"Why didn't you come to the game?" asks Umby.

"Miss U said you would have a good reason."

"Oh, dear!" says Uncle Ulver.

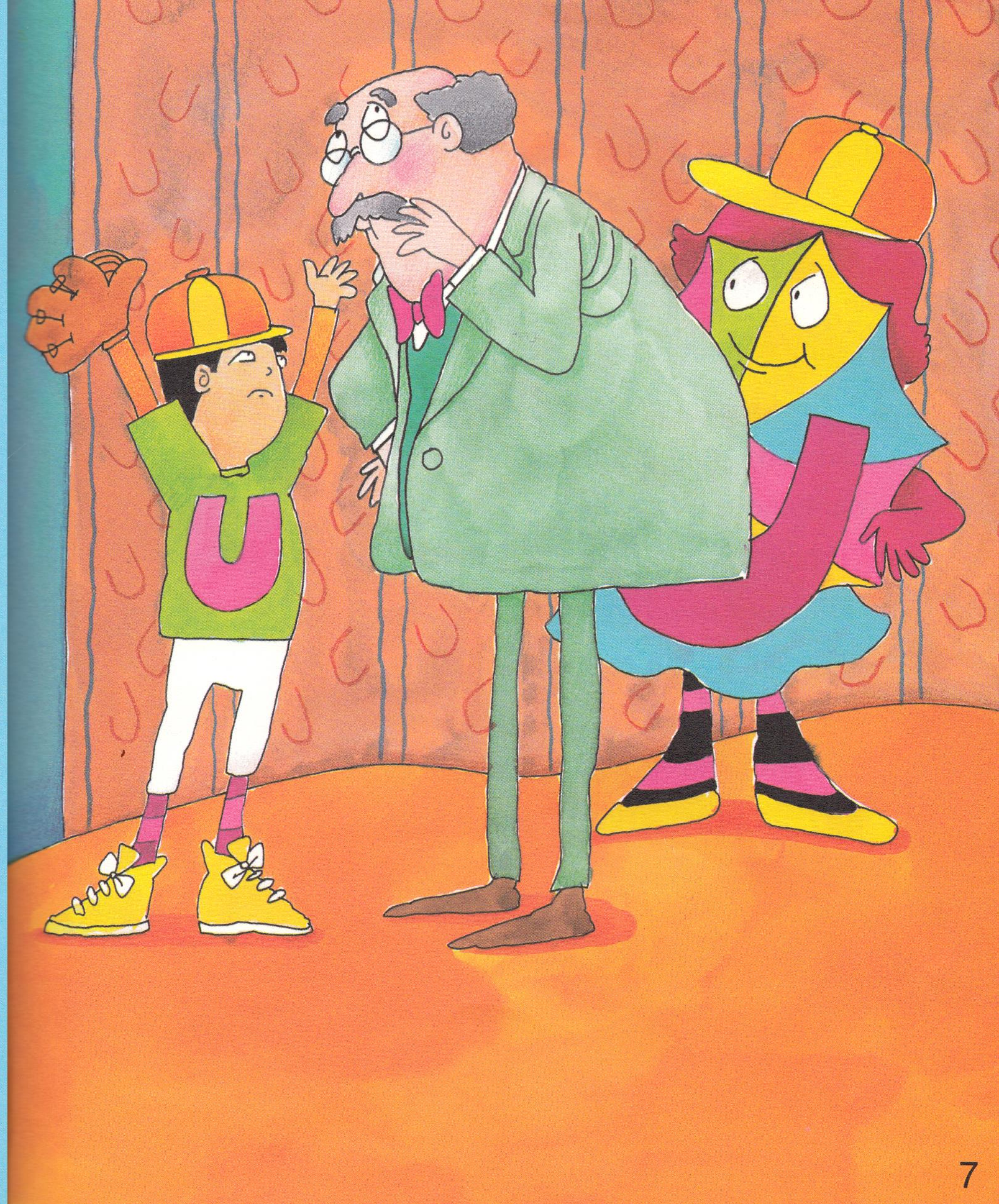
"I forgot about the game."

"Forgetting is not a good reason," says Umby.

"I'm sorry," says Uncle Ulver.

"I didn't want to forget.

But I did."



Umby cannot understand.

“Uncle Ulver,” he says, “we needed you.
Did you forget because you don’t
care about us anymore?”

“Umby, I may forget a ball game,” says Uncle Ulver.

“But I will never forget to care about you.”

“Forgetting and caring are not the same,”
says Miss U.

But Umby doesn’t understand.

He thinks Uncle Ulver doesn’t care.



One day Undene, too, thinks Uncle Ulver doesn't care anymore.

It begins when Miss U and Uncle Ulver are planning Undene's surprise birthday party.

"I will bake Undene's birthday cake," says Uncle Ulver.

"I promised Undene I'd bake a cake with a girl holding a bat."

"Undene will be so happy," says Miss U.

"I will bring the cake early," says Uncle Ulver.

"Please leave a large space on the birthday table."



On the day of Undene's party the birthday table is set.
But the birthday cake is missing.

"I'll telephone Uncle Ulver," says Miss U.

"Uncle Ulver," she says, "do you need help
bringing the birthday cake to the party?"

"Birthday cake!" exclaims Uncle Ulver.

"I forgot to bake it!

I'll rush to the bakery and buy a cake."



Uncle Ulver brings a very small cake
to Miss U's house.

"This was the only cake left in the bakery,"
says Uncle Ulver.

"It is fine," says Miss U.

Suddenly there is a knock on the door.

It is Undene, the birthday girl.

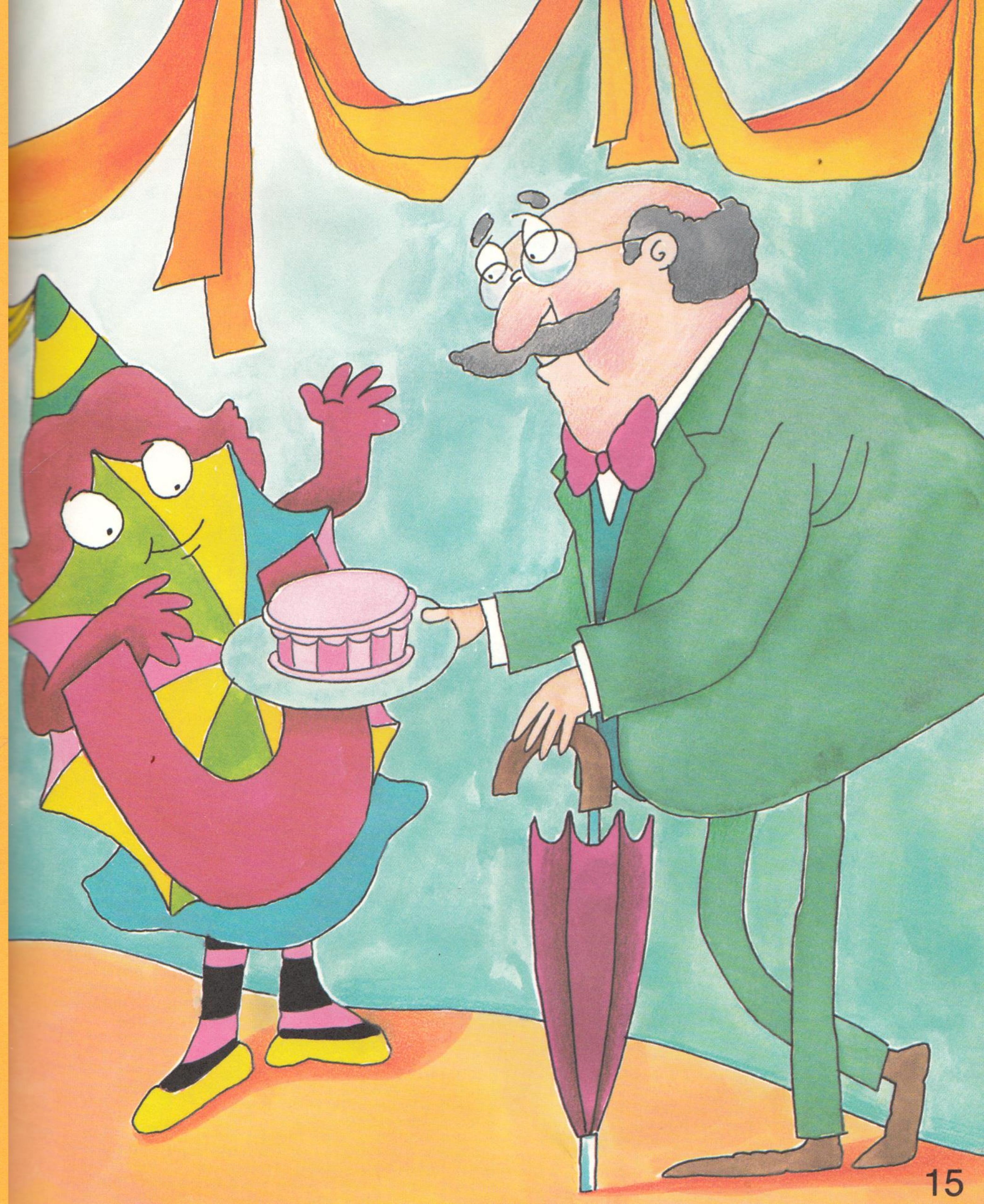
"Quick! Hide!" says Miss U.

When Undene walks in, everybody shouts, "Surprise!
Happy Birthday!"

The children play games.

Uncle Ulver tells stories.

It is a wonderful party!



Then it is time to leave.

Undene takes Uncle Ulver's hand.

"Uncle Ulver," she says, "why don't you care about me anymore?"

"Undene! Why do you think I don't care about you?" asks Uncle Ulver.

"You always bake a cake for my birthday," says Undene.

"This year you promised to bake a very, very special cake.

But you didn't bake any cake at all."

"I wanted to bake the special cake I promised to bake," says Uncle Ulver, "but I forgot."



“I don’t understand about forgetting,” says Undene.
“If you want to do something, why do you forget?”
“It isn’t easy for me to understand either,”
says Uncle Ulver.
“I know everyone forgets, but lately I seem to
forget more often than I did before.
But forgetting and caring are not the same.
I will never forget to care about you.”
Undene hugs Uncle Ulver.
“Caring about me is better than any birthday
cake you could ever bake,” she says.



The children listen as Undene and Uncle Ulver talk.
“There are different reasons for forgetting,”
says Miss U.

“Undene, you forgot to wear your rain boots today.
Do you have a good reason?” asks Miss U.

“I guess I forgot because I didn’t want to cover
my new shoes.

My reason is not a good reason,” says Undene.

“Uncle Ulver, your reason is a good one.
You forgot because you couldn’t help forgetting.”

“We understand,” say the children.

But Umby still doesn’t understand.

He thinks Uncle Ulver forgets because he doesn’t care.



Then one day, Umby gets into trouble because he forgets.

Umby has a new pair of ice skates.

"I want to use my skates today," he says.

Umby skates out onto the lake as fast as he can.

Uncle Ulver is at the lake, too.

Uncle Ulver has his ice skates.

Before he skates, he looks to see if there is a red warning flag.

Uncle Ulver sees the red flag.

"No skating today," thinks Uncle Ulver.

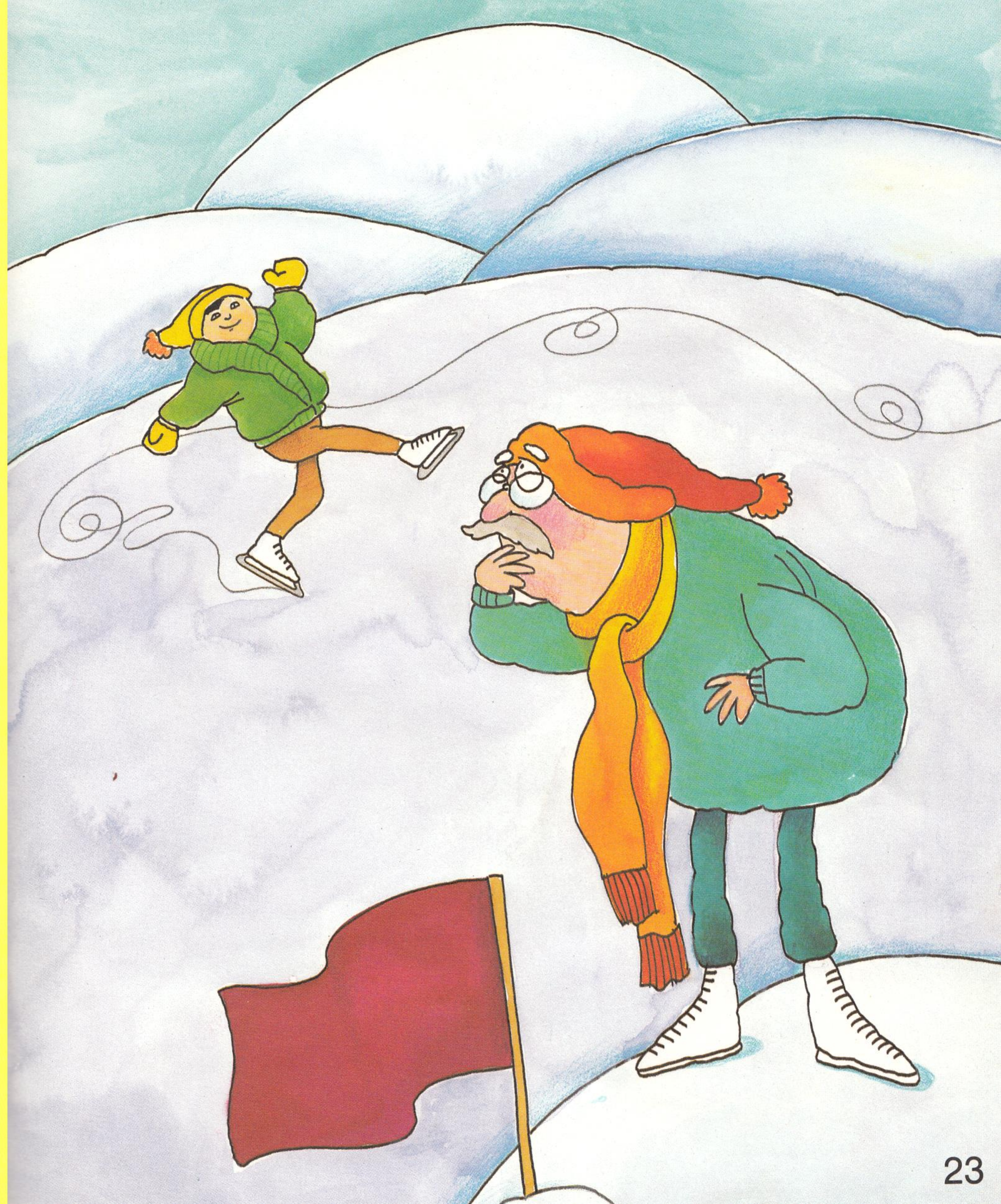
Then he sees Umby.

"Why are you skating on the lake?"

Uncle Ulver shouts.

"It's not safe.

Didn't you see the red warning flag?"



"I didn't look for the flag," says Umby.

"I forgot.

Uncle Ulver! Tell me what to do!"

"Stay where you are," shouts Uncle Ulver.

"I'll help you."

Uncle Ulver unwinds his long, long scarf.

He throws one end of the scarf to Umby.

Before he can say another word, he hears the ice start to crack.

Uncle Ulver holds on to the scarf.

He tells Umby to keep holding on, too.



At that moment, Miss U and her most unusual umbrella fly over the lake.
Miss U sees Umby is in trouble.
She presses a button on her unusual umbrella.
The umbrella goes down.
Then she presses another button.
The umbrella handle gets longer and longer.
Umby grabs the handle.
Miss U presses another button.
The umbrella goes up.



“Umby, why were you skating on the lake?”
asks Miss U.

“Didn’t you see the red warning flag?”

“I forgot to look,” Umby says very quietly.

“My reason is not a good one.”

“Uncle Ulver did not forget to look,” says Miss U.

“I know,” says Umby.

“And Uncle Ulver did not forget to care about me.”





Suddenly Umby laughs and laughs.
“This is a forgetting day,” he giggles.
“First I forgot.
Now you forgot, too.”
“What did I forget?” asks Miss U.
“You forgot to land,” giggles Umby.